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DATE: February 10, 2004

BY: Julie A. Eslick

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO
37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicant(s): Mineo TSUSHIMA, et al.
Serial No.: 10/061,977
Group Art Unit: 2614
TITLE: ENCODING APPARATUS AND
DECODING APPARATUS

Docket No.: 29288.5200
Filing Date: January 31, 2002
Confirmation No.: 9130

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Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, the reference or references listed and identified on the attached PTO-1449 based form are being submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of the listed reference is included herewith.

The reference or references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art or contain matter which anticipates the invention or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

This Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1) as each item of information contained in this disclosure is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first Office Action, and therefore no fee or statement is required. If Applicant has overlooked any fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit Deposit Account No. 19-

2814 for the same. **A duplicate copy of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed for this purpose.**

If there are any questions concerning this IDS, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 19-2814.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/10/2004

By Michael K. Kelly
Michael K. Kelly
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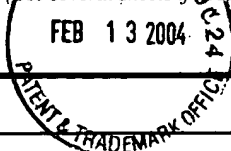
Enclosures: PTO-1449
Patent copies

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

FEB 13 2004



Docket Number (Optional)

29288.5200

Application Number

10/061,977

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		WO 99/04506	01/28/1999	PCT				
		WO 97/15916	05/01/1997	PCT				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		Copy of International Search Report dated 8/13/02
		Copy of Australian Examination Report dated 11/06/2003

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.